



NRAP Good Practice Repository – Children and young people's asthma



County Hospital Hereford
Wye Valley NHS Trust

KPI 3:

*Current smokers (parent/carer) with tobacco dependency
addressed*

County Hospital Hereford achieved:

100% - 2023/24*

*% of patients submitted to the audit.



Identifying potential improvements to processes

Despite our internal belief that we asked about smoking in the majority of our encounters. Through the completion of the NRAP secondary care clinical audit, we were able to identify that we were not doing so, at least we were not recording that we had.

We therefore developed two strands of work; an audit of outpatient smoking discussions/interventions and an audit of the same in our acute inpatient clerkings. We have now achieved high rates of documented discussions and interventions in both areas.

Improving our processes to achieve good practice in KPI3:

Outpatient results were initially low but as this relates to a small respiratory team we engaged the team and reinforced the message frequently to improve the percentage of current smokers (parent/carer) with tobacco dependency addressed.

This work involved respiratory nurses and consultants only. A change to process we did use was to document every time whereas we had been assuming that a previously non-smoking household would remain so the next clinic so were not always asking this group at subsequent clinics. The audit work was carried out by an FY doctor and supervised by a consultant.

Inpatient results were initially extremely low and the success of this strand relied on a large number of nursing and medical staff many of whom are on rotational posts and are not respiratory focussed as it's a general paediatric unit. For this we liaised with the EPR team to ensure the smoking questions were prominent and included in both nurse and medical clerking forms, we also intended to try and make the questions mandatory (ie you cannot click past them) but as that was challenging to change quickly we reaudited in the interim. This very pleasingly revealed a huge increase to 96% of children having the documentation and intervention offered when smokers were identified. The audit work was carried out by a clinical fellow and supervised by a consultant.

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